

BACK TO PRABHUPADA

The magazine of the real Hare Krishna movement

Issue 27, Spring 2010

"Defeating tyranny in the realm of thought"

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ISKCON climbdown special

Also in this issue:

Srila Prabhupada on discipleship

The illusion of freedom

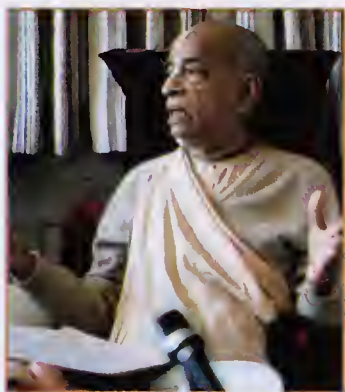
The "double appointment" hoax

ISKCON diksha guru — eliminated!



Iskcon Revival Movement

The fighting spirit



BACK TO PRABHUPADA

Published quarterly

Founded under the inspiration of
**His Divine Grace A.C.
Bhaktivedanta Swami
Prabhupada**, Founder-Acarya,
International Society for Krishna
Consciousness (ISKCON)

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Welcome to Issue 27 of *Back To Prabhupada (BTP)*.

A devotee had complained to us that the IRM are just *kshatriyas* (warriors) looking for a fight. This was meant as an insult, as it would mean that we were not behaving as "real" devotees who are always peaceful and "brahminical". Since we have never claimed to be anything other than lowly aspiring servants of Srila Prabhupada, we took it as a compliment! However, this accusation does reveal another common misunderstanding regarding the path of Krishna consciousness, for the mood of a devotee is that he is always in a war:

"Our Movement is a declaration of war against Maya, that you can understand very well, so we have to recruit many fighting soldiers--so do it vigorously."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 3/5/1970)

"The temple is a place not for eating and sleeping, but as a base from which we send out our soldiers to fight with maya."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 3/8/1973)

"Because you are very sincere and enthusiastic boy, and very intelligent also, Krishna has given you this position of leadership in His army, to win the war with Maya and establish Krishna Consciousness as the perfect way of life for every living entity."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 15/11/1971)

Notice the use of the words: "army", "war", "soldiers" and "fighting".

Srila Prabhupada stated that one major fight was against nonsense philosophers who say that "God is dead":

Syamasundara: "And by putting out this book, *The Origin of Species*, they at once did away with God to be able to... After that Nietzsche, another philosopher who said, "God is dead," he made that statement first, right af-

ter Darwin's book came out: "God is dead."

Srila Prabhupada: "So we have to fight against all these nonsense philosophers."

(Discussions with Syamasundara Das)

Well today the biggest nonsense philosophers are those who have declared that Srila Prabhupada is dead. As Jayapataka Swami has basically said, "how can a dead man give diksha?" (please see *BTP* 13). And we have to fight them. We can not stay silent in the name of "peace" or "co-existence". For Krishna consciousness is not meant to be an easy-going life of all sweetness and light, even though many persons from "hippie" or "new-age" backgrounds may think that this is the essence of spiritual life:

Srila Prabhupada: "So we have to fight against all this nonsense. Nonsense scientists, nonsense religionists. What do you think? It is not easy-going, sleeping business. We have to fight with so many demons. [...] As all our Godbrothers are doing. They have got a little temple, and a few devotees go and beg rice and cook it and eat and sleep, that's all."

Pusta Krsna: "Like being dead almost."

Srila Prabhupada: "No fighting spirit."

(Room Conversation, 2/7/1976)

Srila Prabhupada, however, states that we must be full of "fighting spirit." But, instead of this, some devotees want that their lives should be like "peaceful" sweet proclamations of "Hare Krishna" and "Haribol":

Srila Prabhupada: "Yes. That is preaching. Therefore we are writing so many books. Unless we take care of the books and preach and read ourself, understand the philosophy, this Hare Krsna will be finished within few years. Because there will be no life. How long one can artificially go on, "Hare Krsna! Haribol!" That will be artificial, no

life."

Yasominandana: "That's right Prabhupada. We are so foolish, we never realize anything unless you tell us like that. Without preaching..."

Srila Prabhupada: "Without preaching, without understanding philosophy, you cannot keep your strength."

(Morning Walk, 12/12/1973)

Srila Prabhupada bluntly states the outcome of such an attitude: "this Hare Krsna will be finished". And, as we have copiously documented in *BTP*, commercialism, secularism and Hinduization have now taken over ISKCON due to its desire to be "mainstream". Those deviations were added on top of the monstrous guru hoax, and together those deviations have rendered the movement which Srila Prabhupada founded to be unrecognisable today. In addition to the need for the "fighting spirit", the other essential requirement which Srila Prabhupada states above, is the need to "understand the philosophy". Here again, *BTP* has repeatedly documented the complete lack of understanding of philosophy from the leaders of ISKCON. Almost every time one of them opens his mouth in an attempt to explain Srila Prabhupada's position, we hear nothing but contradictory gibberish, which we need to continually correct by repeating Srila Prabhupada's words.

A fighting spirit, a willingness to fight against nonsense philosophy, and a correct understanding of the philosophy – this is the need of the hour, and the IRM are endeavouring to provide this – no matter what criticism we face!

Please feel free to write to me at the following address: irm@iskconirm.com.

Thank you and Hare Krishna.

Yours in the service of Srila Prabhupada,

Krishnakant



Letters to the editor

EDITOR'S NOTE: Due to a continued overwhelming response, the publication of letters has been running approximately 9 months behind for quite some time now. We tried previously to run an extra page of letters to clear the backlog, but this was to no avail since as the number of our subscribers continues to increase, so do the letters! We humbly beg your patience.

“Being a life member for two decades, thank you and Hare Krishna to Back to Prabhupada for revealing the truth to devotees.”

- Professor P.C. Saha, Kolkata, India

“I have read with happiness the papers you sent to me. It's irrefutable. Finally the truth! I was feeling a spiritual vacuum in spite of the immeasurable presence of Srila Prabhupada in ISKCON's Mayapur headquarters. Many Indians, real devotees, are not duped by all these bogus gurus. They are disciples of Srila Prabhupada and not of all these imposters. When I was in Mayapura, Jayapataka was there: how is it possible to bow down to a man like this? And ISKCON headquarters is corrupted by business and greed. People are coming to live as if in a hotel. Fortunately in all this pitiful decadence you are there to incarnate and protect the real ISKCON. Once more, thank you to all. HARE KRISHNA.”

- Ganeshkumar Das, Blesle, France
(Translated from French)

“Your magazine is an enormous effort and everyone appreciates your work. May there be no hindrance to any of us in our advancement in Krsna Consciousness.

Your servant,”

- Mahasana Das, Florida, USA

“Thanks very much Krishnakant and all those who have contributed to the IRM magazine. I've received the latest issue (number 22). It seems as though you're making quite an impact against those guru-hoaxes! Thanks again! Hare Krsna!”

- Dan Slater, Florey, Australia

“Haribol, first of all it's a good job, keep it up. We want to know more because those things are really striking and the truth should always be here in front of us. All glories to Srila Prabhupada.”

- Pardessy Reshma, Port Louis, Mauritius

“Hare Krishna Prabhu! Jaya Srila Prabhupada! All glories to your auspicious service!

We read yesterday (Mahaprabhu Das and me) your comments on KKS (Kadamba Kanana Swami)'s lecture and can tell you that it is a masterpiece! (BTP 22, www.iskconirm.com/docs/webpages/kks2.htm). Mahaprabhu said KKS is chopped to pieces! I used to think your exchange with Hrdyananda Maharaja, and his claim that there are “dozens” of quotes where Srila Prabhupada orders diksha gurus, but where he was not even able to produce one, was the best rebuttal. But this one with flower tree Swami KKS was...unprecedented... so pure, clear and educating, and indeed the more they are speaking, the more they are sinking if they are against ritvik issue. Thanks one more time.”

- Mirza, Amsterdam, Holland

“Hare Krsna! All glories to Srila Prabhupada. PAMHO. I am confirming my receipt of BTP 22 as per your request. I have read it cover to cover at first sitting. All glories to your service! All the articles are excellent as usual.”

- Mother Mahesvari Devi Dasi, Nice, California, USA

“May His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada shower his blessings upon you always.”

- Brahmaloaka Das, Watford, England

“This publication of BTP is really nice. I am delighted. I'm thankful and highly privileged to have this 22nd issue.”

- Ganesh, Andhra Pradesh, India

“Thank you for your noble work. I'm deeply impressed.”

- M. Hareesh, Andhra Pradesh, India

“Thank you for all your hard work. Millions of people are indebted to your service in presenting the truth.”

- Amal Balasubramanian, California, USA

“Jaya Prabhupada! Nice web site (www.iskconirm.com). We have to go against all scammers, all money makers, the false gurus, everyone who uses the name of Srila Prabhupada, the Vedas and the name of Lord Krsna only to lie to the people.”

- Felipe Pennafiel, Sao Paulo, Brazil

“Hare Krishna. Thank you for the latest issue of Back to Prabhupada. Keep up the good work.”

- Barry Coleman, Amsterdam, Holland

“BTP 23 received and relished. I especially liked the article entitled ‘Srila Prabhupada's transcendental status’. If we take Prabhupada's books ‘as it is’, there is no doubt about the qualifications of the guru.

Your servant,”

- Dwaipayana Das, New South Wales, Australia

“Thank you very much for all the hard work you have been doing to help wake up the innocent, sincere devotees and bring them back to Srila Prabhupada's lotus feet. All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

Your servant,”

- Gauravani Devi Dasi, Hamilton, New Zealand

“I am greatly indebted to the wonderful devotees who have taken this task of correcting the moods, attitudes and the consciousness of the people who mostly are ignorant of the situation in ISKCON for some reason or other. Thanking you indebtedly,”

- Hari Vittal, Nairobi, Kenya

“Many, many thanks for the efforts in spreading the required information for the interested ones throughout the world. Keep up the good spirit and let Srila Prabhupada be glorified everywhere.”

- P.N. Kulkarni, Hubli, India

“Very good book to know the truth.”

- M G Hegade, Bangalore, India

“You guys at BTP are doing a super-fantastic job at exposing the bogus gurus of ISKCON as who they really are - agents of Kali. I offer dandavats to you, who (it is clear to me) Srila Prabhupada has personally empowered to carry onward this, Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu's sankirtan movement, to the modern world.”

- Rajesh Shah, Harrow, England

“Thank you for your wonderful service!!!”

- Rsi Kumar Das, Sandy Ridge, North Carolina, USA

“Keep up the fight, continue the good work.”

- Bill McMillin, Texas, USA

“Hari Bol Prabhus,

Obeisances to you and all glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Thanks again and keep up the great work.

“The secret of success in advancement in spiritual life is the firm faith of the disciple in the orders of his spiritual master.” (CC Adi-lila ch. 12, sloka 8, purport, by His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada).

We hope this letter finds you well, and joyfully engaged in the service of Srila Prabhupada.

Your aspiring servants,”

- Arya Devi Dasi and Vijeta Das, British Columbia, Canada

“Hare Krishna! I am a Krishna devotee. I like to read the magazines about Lord Krishna and Prabhupada. You do a good job in sending the magazine of Back To Prabhupada. Hare Krishna!”

- Kalishini Nair, Perak, Malaysia

“Excellent magazine. Much obliged if you can add me to your distribution list for all publications and resources. Hare Krsna. Jaya Srila Prabhupada!”

- Russell Maharaj, Princes Town, Trinidad and Tobago

“Hare Krishna! Devotees in the IRM are doing great work!!!”

- Sunil Mohabeer, Goodlands, Mauritius

“Thank you for your continued service! Many greetings.”

- Ivo Thyssen, Kampenhout, Belgium

Letters to the editor *(continued from page 3)*

"The BTP mag as usual is wonderful, amazing at revealing the truth. It behooves me to remain with IRM. It is very clear IRM have my happiness and contentment in their good grace and mercy."

-Svarupa Damodara Das, Cavan, Ireland

"I really like your site (www.iskconirm.com), and am very interested in your magazine as well! All the best,"

-Daniel Fairman, La Vista, USA

"Thanks for your clarity and the service to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada. Hare Krsna."

-Gopi Candana Dasi, Firenze, Italy (translated from Italian)

"I'm so happy to be in IRM. ISKCON burnt me out! How can I help?"

-Vijaya Devi Dasi, Colorado, USA

"I like to read more BTP. It is a nice magazine by which to know more. Please send me The Final Order. 'Haribol' to all."

-D. Bunjun, Curepipe, Mauritius

"Jai Srila Prabhupada, who came to the western world to save souls like us - we are willing submissive servant to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada forever. Jai Gaura-Nitai, Jai Nrsimhadev! Om Tat Sat."

-Veronika F. Ward, Florida, USA

"Thank you very much for the knowledge presented hereby. Please let me know as to how I can do my best in helping IRM. I want to be a real Prabhupada disciple."

-Mohan Sundar Reddy, Hyderabad, India

"I am happy to receive the magazine regularly from you and it has been a wonderful experience reading them always. Many thanks for your service and cooperation."

Yours sincerely,"

-Nidhi Vig, Manchester, England

"Thank you very much for getting this very informative book out to me. I really like it very much. Hare Krishna!"

-Michael Thomas, New York, USA

"It's ironic that the Great Movement started by our beloved spiritual master has been devi-

ated because of the self-appointed gurus who have fallen to the lowest of human weakness - illicit connection with women, drugs, etc. It's high time now to follow the path shown by our spiritual master and go back to Godhead."

-Vijay Powani, Rajkot, India

"I am very much happy with this movement of our ISKCON revival. Hare Krishna. Jaya Prabhupada."

-Kaushal Nalinbhai Chavda, Rajkot, India

"Received with thanks BTP issue 23. Jesus said 'in the times of the end, that which was spoken of behind closed doors will be shouted from the rooftops'. The cracks are showing!!! Also from Jesus - 'in the times of the end, there will be spiritual wickedness in high and low places'. What's higher than Krsna Consciousness?"

-Brian Woolley, Coventry, England

"It is a very good magazine. It is in very simple English to understand for all the devotees."

-Minta Dookun, Vacaos, Mauritius

"Hare Krishna. Yes we are with you to run ISKCON as Srila Prabhupada desired."

-Vikram Singh, Jaipur, India

"Thank you very much, and may Lord Krishna bless you, always. Cheers!"

-Donna Bekiarian, North Carolina, USA

"Haribol, just wanted to let you know I received issue 23, and it's as great as usual."

I support your cause as Srila Prabhupada is the only true diksha guru."

-Tim Croft, Kentucky, USA

"I really appreciate this work, and we should re-establish Srila Prabhupada as the only Guru all over the world, and no other devotee should claim himself as a guru."

-Krishna Tungal, Bangalore, India

"Get ISKCON back on track, IRM! Hare Krishna!"

-Amit Gupta, California, USA

"Keep up the good work. Great book."

-Ketan Soni, Chatsworth, South Africa

"Hello, may I congratulate you on seeking to have ISKCON run in the way that Prabhupada intended."

-Jonathan Abraham, London, England

"The editor and the IRM team are doing a great job. May the Lord of Goloka shower His mercy upon you for your righteousness."

-B. Senthil Kumar, Chennai, India

"First I want to say how happy I am to read your info. I have been away from the movement for a long time but always Prabhupada by my side, but it was thanks to a very simple three words that got me going again: 'Back to Prabhupada'. So simple and powerful. Please keep me informed. Haribol."

-Milton Aviles, California, USA

"Dear Krishnakant,

I am really charmed by your writing power. I get your magazine every month. I can't believe your enthusiasm and energy in the fight for Prabhupada's name. I was sad to get the feeling that Prabhupada's murti was a begging bowl last time I went to an ISKCON temple. Maybe that's why they haven't pelted it out yet."

-Ann Devi Singh, Mumbai, India

"Hare Krishna, I like to know the truth and pray to Srila Prabhupada to bless you to clean up the house at the earliest."

-Major Debashish Sinha, Mizoram, India

"All glories to HDG A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. I've received all your BTP copies and got the truth how ISKCON is deviating from Prabhupada. Dear Prabhupada, kindly bless and give knowledge to all those who have misled (deviated) your mission. Hare Krishna."

-Udayakumar Desai, Belgaum, India

"My dear Krishnakant Prabhu,

Please accept my humble obeisances. I received the copy of The Final Order on 19th September and it was my birthday. Thanks for my birthday gift! So I am thankful to you for providing me with the message of Srila Prabhupada. I sincere-

ly appreciate the fact that you are single-handedly fighting for the reforms in ISKCON, it is quite an uphill task. Devotees in India are completely unaware about the conspirators, the ritviks, the theory of diksha guru and all that. Therefore they are blindly following their guru. There is a strong need to make them aware about the reality, and after that I believe that nobody will deny that Srila Prabhupada is the only diksha guru. And I'll be pleased if I can be of any help in your mission. All Glories to Srila Prabhupada. Yours sincerely,"

-Ajit M Borade, Pune, India

"I am so happy to know there's someone out there who cares about Prabhupada's orders. Thanks and Haribol."

-Carlos Guardado, California, USA

"I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt appreciation to your sincere efforts. Srila Prabhupada has special blessings for you. In fact, I am very much encouraged to make advancement in understanding the hidden treasures of Srila Prabhupada's Divine Mission - ISKCON - by reading regularly Back To Prabhupada. You have revealed many things in every issue of BTP - 'Exposing the hidden treasures of the ISKCON Movement which many devotees don't know.' Every issue of BTP is essential for all devotees who are serious in Krishna conscious preaching program under the strict principles of the ISKCON Mission. I feel to express many words in appreciation of your sincere dedication to Srila Prabhupada's Divine Mission. In reality, BTP is the only magazine of the real Hare Krishna Movement to make a devotee understand the Divine Mission of Srila Prabhupada. I am receiving BTP regularly by post. Many thanks for your kind and sincere efforts. Hoping this letter will find you in the best spirit of Krishna Consciousness. Hare Krishna!"

-Bhakta Nabakishore Das (Doctor Sapam Nabakishore), TP, ISKCON Lakhimpur, India

Climbdown -1: Srila Prabhupada is the guru

In the battle between the deviated GBC and the IRM, three phases can be identified:

Phase 1: ISKCON's leaders claim the IRM is wrong.

Phase 2: ISKCON's leaders agree with the IRM (but still continue their guru hoax).

Phase 3: ISKCON's leaders actually start to follow the IRM, and dismantle the guru hoax.

As we have been documenting via the *BTP* Special Issue 2, and many recent *BTP* issues, ISKCON's leadership is clearly entering phase 2, wherein they have continued shifting philosophical ground more and more towards the IRM.

As more evidence of phase 2, we present 3 more pages of climb-downs from ISKCON. It is hoped that it is only a matter of time before ISKCON enters phase 3, giving up their current *Kali-yuga* hypocrisy of saying one thing but doing another, and actually begin following the IRM's position that Srila Prabhupada is ISKCON's sole *diksha* (initiating) guru, just as many others, both within and outside ISKCON, have done and are doing.

1. HH Giriraja Swami

In the *BTP* 21 article "The proof is before us every morning!", we proved that the *Guru-vandana* prayers sung every morning by every ISKCON member refer exclusively to Srila Prabhupada as ISKCON's *diksha* guru. In the wake of our exposé on his teachings in *BTP* 25, ISKCON guru HH Giriraja Swami ("GRS") now appears to have adopted the IRM's philosophy, as revealed in a question and answer session after a class he gave following the publication of *BTP* 25:

Gaura Bhagavan Das: "Every day in the *Guru-vandana* prayers we sing, *sri-guru-carane rati, ei se*

uttama gati, ye prasade pure sarva asa: "Attachment to the lotus feet of the spiritual master is the best means of spiritual advancement. By his mercy all desires for spiritual perfection are fulfilled." So if someone is attached to the lotus feet of Srila Prabhupada, he will achieve all perfection. He doesn't need anything else but to associate with devotees who are attached to the lotus feet of Srila Prabhupada."

Giriraja Swami: "I agree with you. What you quoted confirms what was said in the class." (GRS Class, January 17th, 2010)

GRS agrees with the IRM that it is sufficient for every ISKCON devotee to only accept Srila Prabhupada as the *diksha* guru-spiritual master sung about in the *Guru-vandana* prayers and simply associate with other devotees who accept the same.

2. TV climbdown

In the last issue of *BTP*, we demonstrated how the recent series of climb-downs by ISKCON's leaders has expanded from the arena of public lectures to the medium of mass broadcasting via a public video proclaiming the IRM's philosophical position that Srila Prabhupada is the current guru of ISKCON. We can now report that this climbdown has gone one step further, with an ISKCON television broadcast announcing:

"I received one book and this book was *On the Way to Krishna* and the moment I read this one line in this book I immediately realized, I said 'This is the guru I have been looking for throughout my life.' I met so many gurus, I met so many religious people, but nobody could convince me. But one line which Prabhupada

(wrote), when I read, I immediately got convinced. "At that time I wanted to meet Swami Srila Prabhupada...so this was the person I want to see, but on the back of the book it was written 'Srila Prabhupada departed in 1977', and immediately tears started coming from my eyes – exactly like you're feeling, I felt the same way. But then I thought even Srila Prabhupada may have departed (in) 1977, but still his teachings would be there, [...] so immediately I started reading these books."

(Ramanuja Das, "Hare Krishna Culture", January 3rd, 2010, MATV, audio can be heard here: www.iskconirm.com/sounds/HKCulture_MATV030110.mp3)

Produced by devotees from ISKCON UK HQ, with guidance and support from HH Giriraja Swami. Ref: "Hare Krishna Culture Comes to Satellite TV", *ISKCON News Weekly*, April 11th, 2009)

This televised admission makes it clear that though Srila Prabhupada may have physically departed, such is the transcendental potency of Srila Prabhupada's words that just one line from his books is sufficient to convince one to accept Srila Prabhupada as the guru one has been searching for throughout one's whole life. No mention is made of the need for any other "living" spiritual master. In this way it is describing Srila Prabhupada as one's eternal bona fide spiritual master:

Indian Lady: ... "is that spiritual master still guiding after death?"

Srila Prabhupada: "Yes, yes. Just like Krsna is guiding us, similarly spiritual master will guide us."

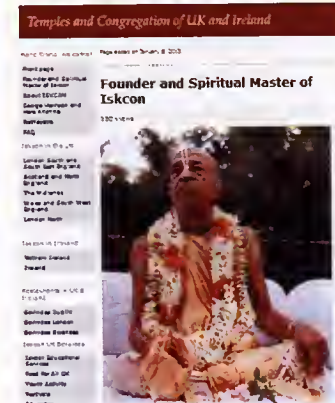
(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, September 23rd, 1969)

"Eternal bond between disciple and Spiritual Master begins from the day he hears."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, September 4th, 1972)

Hence, Ramanuja Das, who has taken initiation from HH Giriraja Swami, is confessing on television that it is actually Srila Prabhupada who is his real spiritual master!

3. ISKCON website



(http://iskconuk.com/?page_id=183)

The new ISKCON UK website profiles Srila Prabhupada as "Founder and Spiritual Master of ISKCON", as depicted above. This means that they acknowledge that we are all disciples of Srila Prabhupada, since Srila Prabhupada says:

"Yes, I am the spiritual master of this institution, and all the members of the Society, they're supposed to be my disciples. They follow the rules and regulations which I ask them to follow, and they are initiated by me spiritually."

(Srila Prabhupada Interview, 3.12.1968)

By referring to Srila Prabhupada's status as guru for ISKCON in the singular, this must mean *diksha* guru, just as Srila Prabhupada states above, because whilst there can be any number of *siksha* gurus, there can only be one *diksha* guru:

"A devotee must have only one initiating spiritual master because in the scriptures acceptance of more than one is always forbidden. There is no limit, however, to the number of instructing spiritual masters one may accept." (Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta, Adī 1:35, purport)

Climbdown - 2: No *diksha* guru successors

We analyse here two ISKCON gurus discussing the issue of succession in ISKCON, and which successors Srila Prabhupada had authorized.

"Become guru" order

Much of the GBC's case that Srila Prabhupada had repeatedly authorized all his disciples to become *diksha* (initiating) guru rests on Srila Prabhupada's many calls for everyone to "become guru". Here he cited Lord Chaitanya's same order given to the *brahmana* Kurma in *Caitanya-caritamṛta*, *Madhya-Lila*, 7:128 ("*amara ajnaya guru hana*" - "become a spiritual master"). Indeed, the GBC's official reply to *The Final Order* (the IRM's position paper), *Prabhupada's Order*, opens with a whole chapter giving these quotes, so central are these quotes to the GBC's case. Unfortunately for the GBC, however, Srila Prabhupada uses these quotes to refer specifically to becoming *siksha* (instructing) guru - as we prove in *The Final Order*. The *brahmana* Kurma is simply told by Lord Chaitanya to talk about Krishna to anyone he meets, and later on it states that Lord Chaitanya gave exactly the same instruction to "become guru" to anyone and everyone He met on His travels. And just in case there was any doubt that this is not an order for *diksha* gurus, the subsequent purport states very clearly, "It is best not to accept any disciples", which irrefutably seals the case.

ISKCON guru's confession

HH Partha-sarathi Das Goswami ("PSDG"), a GBC-elected guru hoaxer, has agreed with the above facts:

"Srila Prabhupada often quotes this verse, especially when addressing Indian audiences. The words "*amara ajnaya*" means "under My order" and "guru

hana" means "becoming a spiritual master". What type of guru is not specified because there is *diksa-guru* and *siksa-guru*. Srila Prabhupada writes, "It is best not to accept any disciples." (Cc. *Madhya* 7.130, purport). Based on this warning it could be assumed that the words "*guru hana*" means become a *siksa-guru*. In the first line of Cc. *Madhya* 7.128, Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu says whomever you meet; tell them about Krishna... this also refers to *siksha*. A doubt arose in my mind because Srila Prabhupada says, "it is best not to accept any disciples." How can I justify my actions in initiating disciples? One answer is that Srila Rupa Goswami writes, "without accepting disciples you cannot increase the preaching mission." Also Srila Gour Govinda Maharaja, who I accept as a "*nitya-siddha maha-bhagavata*", gave *diksa* initiation to many disciples. The fact that the GBC have authorized it doesn't necessarily make it right. With the greatest respect to the GBC, they have made mistakes in the past." (<http://www.psdgoswami.com/joss56.htm>, archived February 23rd, 2010)

No authorization

In the preceding statement, PSDG:

a) States that this order to "become guru" from Lord Chaitanya, which Srila Prabhupada repeats to his own disciples, refers to *siksha*.

b) Thus, PSDG admits his authority for becoming *diksha* guru is not from any order from Srila Prabhupada, but from his interpretation of a general statement from Srila Rupa Goswami, and by following the example of a fellow GBC-elected guru hoaxer.

This is an admission that neither does Srila Prabhupada authorize *diksha* gurus via his "be-

come guru" orders, nor is becoming *diksha* guru in ISKCON based on any authority from Srila Prabhupada. Yet, without such authority from Srila Prabhupada, no action can be justified, no matter what rationalisation is offered:

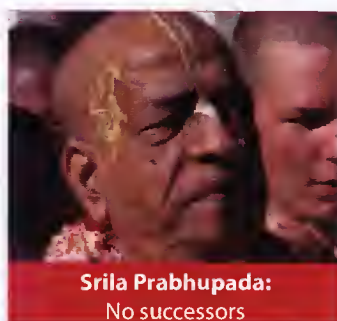
"The order of the spiritual master is the active principle in spiritual life. Anyone who disobeys the order of the spiritual master immediately becomes useless."

(Sri *Caitanya-caritamṛta*, *Adi-lila*, 12:10)

No successors

Another GBC-elected guru hoaxer, HH Bhakti Caitanya Swami ("BS"), states the following in regard to who would succeed Srila Prabhupada after his departure:

"Narayana Maharaja's followers did their level best it seemed to convince ISKCON devotees that he is Srila Prabhupada's successor, and therefore they should take shelter of him. I really can't understand how they come to that conclusion, as I was present when Srila Prabhupada was here, and never heard Narayana Maharaja mentioned even once by Srila Prabhupada or any of his assistants, all of whom I knew quite well. When Srila Prabhupada talked about the future of ISKCON and its leadership he said that his faithful disciples would lead after he had gone. For example there is the following conversation on November 2nd, 1977, 12 days before he left this world: Prabhupada: (They asked) "...after you, who will take the leadership?" And (I told them) "Everyone will take, all my disciples. If you want, you can take also. (laughter) But if you follow. They are prepared to sacrifice everything, so they'll take the leadership. I may, one, go away, but there will be hundreds, and



they'll preach."

(<http://www.caitanya.org/wordpress/?p=354>, archived March 4th, 2010)

The quote given makes it clear that after Srila Prabhupada, no one would be his successor, but rather EVERY one of his disciples would continue by preaching. He clearly says "*all my disciples*", and "*there will be hundreds, they'll preach*".

If every one of his disciples is nominated to continue, then where is the question of Srila Prabhupada having already selected only 11 ("The Great Guru Hoax, Part 1"), or even 80 ("The Great Guru Hoax, Part 2") *diksha* guru successors? Just as Narayana Maharaja was not mentioned by Srila Prabhupada as a successor, as BS correctly points out, neither were any *diksha* guru successors mentioned amongst his disciples. So neither has any authority - neither Narayana Maharaja or ISKCON's *diksha* guru successors.

Conclusion

The IRM has all along proven that Srila Prabhupada had never authorised his succession as the *diksha* guru of ISKCON. Rather he had only ever authorised his disciples to act as gurus in the same manner as they were encouraged to do whilst Srila Prabhupada was physically present - by preaching and acting as *siksha* gurus. Due to our continued relentless preaching, ISKCON's leadership is not only unable to offer any challenge to our arguments, but simply continues to agree!



Climbdown - 3: Book changes means defeat

One sign that ISKCON leaders are conceding defeat in the wake of the overwhelming evidence which the IRM has presented, is their attempt to simply get rid of this evidence by changing Srila Prabhupada's words!

We present here two examples of their attempt to do this in regard to two of the IRM's key arguments.

"Become guru"

We highlighted in the previous article how the GBC's authority for claiming *diksha* guru successors to Srila Prabhupada is shattered by the presence of the statement "It is best not to accept any disciples" in the Caitanya-caritamṛta. Unable to rebut Srila Prabhupada's clear words, ISKCON's leadership has now decided to get rid of this troublesome quote by simply pretending it does not exist!

Book change attempt - 1

GBC-elected guru hoaxer **HH Bhakti Vikash Swami** ("BVKS") proposed eliminating this unanswerable quote by claiming one word had been incorrectly transcribed:

"After all, Caitanya Mahāprabhu ordered all his followers to become guru. So the *ritvik*-*vadis* say that that means you should become a *siksha* guru and not a *diksha* guru. And in Prabhupada's purport to *Madhya-lila* verse 130, which comes just after that famous verse *amara ajnaya guru haya tara ei desa*, "Become a guru and deliver this land", there is a statement that "It is best not to accept any disciples", it's in Prabhupada's purport. I got the original transcript of this and there are mistakes in Prabhupada's books made by his editors, especially in the *Caitanya-caritamṛta*, which was a rush job, and actually that

should say that "It is best not...," because Prabhupada dictated and the transcribers heard it and typed it and then they edited. That should be "It is best not to accept *many* disciples" not "*any* disciples". One letter makes a lot of difference." (BVKS, lecture, February 9th, 2009)

So unable to deal with the evidence that effectively kills his bogus guru position, BVKS states that we should simply change the word "any" to "many". He alleges he has proof to justify this change, but it is proof he has not presented, and we will see in the next section why.

Book change attempt - 2

BVKS forgets that earlier he had actually given a completely different reason for why this statement from Srila Prabhupada should be changed, as given below:

From: Dravida (das) ACBSP
(San Diego - USA)
Date: 04-Apr-07 17:06 (10:06 -0700)
Cc: (BBT) Errors (in) English Books [1385]
Reference: Text PAMHO:13303610
by Brahma Muhurta Das (NE BBT)
Subject: Madhya 7.130

Received the following from
Bhaktivikasa Swami on 1 March:

[Quotes Madhya Lila 7:130]
Relevant section from Anubhasya:
'ami sarvottama vaisnava sisya karile
garvvarupa bhajana nasta haya'—ei
utkatabhaktabhimana tyaga kariya
dainyera sahita suddhanamagrahanacara
o suddhanama pracararupa gurura karya
karile jadapratistharupa visaya-
taranga prabala haite pare na.

NB: Srila Bhaktisiddhanta doesn't state not to accept disciples, but the opposite: to give up the mentality by which one prefers not to accept disciples.

Got ot (see attached file), which

confirmed BVK Swami 100%.

Your servant,
Dravida dasa

At 03:17 PM 4/4/2007 +0200, Brahma
Muhurta Das (NE BBT) wrote:

is

>> One should not try to be an
artificially advanced devotee,
thinking, "I am a first-class devotee."
Such thinking should be avoided. It is
best not to accept any disciples. <<
Ref. VedaBase => Madhya 7.130

should be

>>One should not try to be an
artificially advanced devotee, thinking
"I am a first-class devotee, so it is
best not to accept any disciples." Such
thinking should be avoided. <<
Ref. VedaBase => Madhya 7.130

Dravida Prabhu,

Could you please explain why
this has to be changed?

ysbmd

Here BVKS does not allege any error in transcription, but rather claims that Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati gave a different explanation, and that's why Srila Prabhupada's words must be changed.

Whichever way you look at it, this does show that the *Caitanya-caritamṛta*, as it has stood for 35 years, states that "become guru" refers only to *siksha* gurus, and ISKCON's leadership has recognized this, hence their desire to change it.

Srila Prabhupada must authorise

In *The Final Order* we show that any *diksha* gurus in ISKCON would need to be specifically authorised by Srila Prabhupada, by quoting the following verse from the *Srimad-Bhagavatam*:

"One should take initiation

from a bona fide spiritual master coming in the disciplic succession, who is authorised by his predecessor spiritual master. This is called *diksha-vidhana*."

(*Srimad-Bhagavatam*, 4.8.54, purport)

The key part of this quotation is "who is authorised by his predecessor spiritual master". This means that the GBC cannot palm us off with some vague notion that becoming *diksha* guru in ISKCON is "automatic", or that it is a "timeless order", or that it is "tradition" and so on. Rather, they need to show authorization from Srila Prabhupada directly, and without this their current bogus gurus program is smashed. And, as we have shown repeatedly, they have been singularly unable to provide such authorization. So what to do? Simple. Just get rid of this troublesome quote! And that is exactly what Bhakti Charu Swami, another GBC-elected guru hoaxer, has done in his Bengali translation of the *Srimad-Bhagavatam*. He has simply deliberately MISSED OUT "is authorised by his predecessor spiritual master", when translating the verse above – the literary equivalent of "splicing". We say "deliberately", because this mistake was pointed out many years ago, but the latest 7th edition, 2009, printing of the Bengali *Bhagavatam* keeps the omission intact, for obvious reasons.

Conclusion

The two quotes used by *The Final Order* discussed above, deliver a death-blow to the current ISKCON GBC guru system. Otherwise why try to change Srila Prabhupada's words in those sentences instead of following them? Having realized that the game is up, ISKCON's leadership can only resort to a last refuge – deliberate cheating – to try to prop up their unauthorized occupation of Srila Prabhupada's position.

A spiritual fulfilment in Hungary



COMING TO
PRABHUPADA

By
**Govinda-
Priya Devi
Dasi**

**Budapest,
Hungary**

I was born in a small town of Hungary called Siófok. It is a very calm and peaceful place to be, but in the summer time it's very busy because it's the main tourist and holiday destination in the shore of the Hungarian "sea", the lake Balaton. We had a holiday house on the beach of the lake and I spent all my summers there, and from a material viewpoint I had a real calm and peaceful life there.

I have a sister who is 5 years older than me. We were never raised by our parents to believe in God, but despite that, I always knew that there is God, and I also had some faith in reincarnation ever since my childhood. I very often talked with my friends about the matters of going back to our previous lives via regression hypnosis, ghosts etc. It was in 1997 when my sister received a *Bhagavad-gita* from one devotee in the street and this was the time when I first came across Krishna consciousness. The devotees could see that my sister was really interested in the book, so they gradually gave her all of Prabhupada's books, which were available in Hungarian at that time. These devotees came from a nearby town called Pécs, and they started to hold programs in my sister's flat, which I also visited sometimes. I read the books and found the philosophy very interesting. I liked how Srila Prabhupada explained the philosophy in a way which was really easy to understand, even though I wasn't very philosophical at all. My sister gradually became veg-

etarian and took to Krishna consciousness seriously.

At that time I was not practicing anything spiritual and my life was not really about renunciation, but rather doing the opposite. Because I was a teenager, my friends and I were only interested in enjoying life, and I was deeply involved in taking part in all-night parties and all the other crazy things we try to enjoy to derive pleasure and happiness from our senses. I even took part in two beauty competitions, in 1997 and 1998, and I ended up in the third place in both years. Thus my ego became even bigger and I was expecting a successful material life!

However, in 1999 something happened which completely changed my future. My mother had got cancer at the age of 44 and this was a turning point in our family's life. At that time I could see how suffering and death are present in one's life, and it is not all happiness and enjoyment. I was dragged back down to earth and started to look at things differently. Even my father started to get involved in Krishna consciousness, and he and I followed my sister in becoming strict vegetarians and chanting Hare Krishna. We tried to preach to my mother, however she just could not accept it. All three of us tried to get her to chant Hare Krishna but she was resistant. In March 2000, she left her body in a painful condition. All of us were present and we tried our best to create a kind of auspicious atmosphere. Srila Prabhupada's *bhajans* (devotional songs) were played, we sprinkled Ganges water on her and put Tulasi leaf in her mouth, and we loudly chanted the *Mahamantra* and prayed to Krishna to give her a chance in her next life to do some devotional service.

After the death of my mother I regularly visited the programs in my sister's flat and realized how

useless my life was. Having understood the importance of spiritual life, I very soon moved into the Pécs ISKCON temple, and became a full time devotee. After a few months, my sister followed and also became a temple devotee. At that time in Hungary, the Pécs temple was very famous due to the successful book distribution the devotees were doing. That was a unique place among the other temples because the leader of the temple stressed book distribution very much. So my service with my sister from the very beginning was book distribution. We liked doing it very much because we were free to travel to different places, mainly to the capital city Budapest, and therefore we did not really spend much time in the temple. We became completely absorbed in this service. At this time, other than sleeping and eating, we would only distribute books, and do nothing else. We mainly did the distribution in the parking lots of big hypermarkets and stores. It was a constant war between the security guards and us. They knew us very well and they were chasing us away as soon as they saw us arriving. We accepted all kind of difficulties like the extreme heat or cold. We were well treated in the temple and because we were doing our service successfully, the whole *yatra* (community) celebrated us in the yearly book distribution festivals. (From 2000-2004, I was no. 1 female *sankirtana* devotee [book distributor], and no. 2 overall, for all years, in terms of both books distributed and money collected, even though in Hungary we had many *sankirtana* devotees - up to 350 for the Christmas marathon - and in total I donated around \$300,000 during this time, which was not easy in a relatively economically deprived country like Hungary).

The Hungarian *yatra*, es-

pecially the farm community in Somogyvamos, known as "Krishna Valley", was very famous throughout ISKCON worldwide, and attracted many devotees from all over the world, including many ISKCON gurus. When we had some festivals in the farm, devotees gathered from all over the country for the different celebrations, and I worshiped the many ISKCON gurus who visited, as I had been taught to do so by the devotees. When the devotees told me that it was time to choose a spiritual master it was natural for me to choose the one person to whom I had become attracted to more than the others, and this was Bhakti Bringa Govinda Swami. In 2003, I received first initiation from him. Significantly, I remembered that at the time, the initiation did not result in any change in my life, either spiritual or material. Everything went on exactly the same as before, and I just carried on doing the same service as before, with the same results. Indeed, the only difference was that when my spiritual master came to Hungary, I had to collect some extra money to pay for his plane ticket! However, I was convinced that I was in a safe position spiritually, because I knew Srila Prabhupada liked very much that his books were distributed, and I always just followed what the senior devotees had advised me to do.

Also there was a big, rundown building we had bought in Pécs and we had a great plan to renovate it and turn it into a nice temple and preaching centre. Thus I was very excited to take part in creating a nice temple for Krishna and Srila Prabhupada.

However, after over 4 years of doing this service, chanting 16 rounds of *japa* (meditation beads) and keeping the four regulative principles, I did not really experience any big change in my heart

or understanding. The mood of the temple also changed a lot when we experienced that the leaders of the Hungarian *yatra* did not really support us in our plans, but rather took advantage of our ability for collecting money. This led the devotees to experience some kind of lack in their spiritual life and they began to start caring more and more about their own situations, in particular getting married and being situated nicely materially, and therefore many of them planned to move to the farm for starting their household life in a nice, peaceful situation. In this way the temple started to fall apart and the devotees were not so united any more. Naturally the temple's income reduced and finally we had to give up our plans to develop the temple. I also felt the same way, and started to think about my own situation, and how I could be fulfilled in married life, since having served in ISKCON for a number of years had not brought any spiritual fulfilment. So like others, I also made plans to leave and get married, and have a peaceful householder life.

Though I had not experienced any spiritual result or realization despite having given the best years of my life to ISKCON, it was the public fall of Bhakti Ballabh Puri Goswami (Balabhadra Das), who had been promoted in Hungary by HH Sivarama Swami, which made me seriously question ISKCON. It emerged that this "guru", who was my husband's guru, had been deviating for a long time. How then, I questioned, did my husband render any service at all, since this service was supposed to be rendered via the bona fide guru? So my husband and I were now determined to try and discover the truth about who was the bona fide guru and what constituted real service, as we did not wish for all our years in ISKCON to have been a waste.

So we did some research on the internet, and we quickly discovered that there were many



Govinda-Priya Devi Dasi:
Hungary's long-time top female book distributor

groups critical of ISKCON. But we found all of them had some agenda or axe to grind. However, when we came across the ISKCON Revival Movement (IRM) website (www.iskconirm.com), we found only facts and philosophy, which could not be challenged. We saw on the site a "Who's Who" of all the great scholars and gurus in ISKCON, and yet every single one of them had been thoroughly exposed and defeated. So we decided to check further and started reading *BTP* and *The Final Order*. However, due to what had happened in ISKCON, we were skeptical of anyone claiming to provide "the answer", and so we next put many challenging questions to Krishnakant, the leader of this organization, to test if it was all genuine. He painstakingly and patiently answered all that we threw at him.

I was at first shocked when I discovered that actually we should have been the disciples of Srila Prabhupada as this was his final order, and that his real movement had not existed since 1978. So yes, we sadly found that we had both wasted all our years in ISKCON, and instead of rendering service, we had simply done a disservice, helping mislead others, and supporting a deviant society. But at least now we could finally make a fresh start and begin serving Srila Prabhupada. We invited Krishnakant and some of his associates to come to Hungary

to consider us for formally joining the IRM and make a commitment to dedicating our lives to Srila Prabhupada.

Since then my life has really changed, because there is nothing more inspiring than getting answers to all the questions I had over the years and knowing the truth. And the truth really does set you free! Thus my enthusiasm for spiritual life has returned with renewed vigour, and I have been able to resume my chanting and my other practices which had waned over the years, due to the disappointments I had experienced in serving in ISKCON Hungary. We have set about trying to spread this information to others in Hungary, and we have already managed to contact a number of devotees. Whilst my husband and others have been responsible for translating the most important materials into Hungarian, my service has been to help raise the funds to pay for all the printing and distribution. To this end I decided to donate a small fixed percentage of my income for this, since I now had a regular job. But since jobs in Hungary do not pay well, I thought it would take me very long to raise this money, but I was still committed to doing it. Krishna then intervened, in that shortly afterwards I came into a large sum of money by way of a family inheritance, and just by donating the small fixed percentage

"The initiation did not result in any change in my life [...] However, when we came across the IRM website, we found only facts and philosophy which could not be challenged. We saw on the site a "Who's Who" of all the great scholars and gurus in ISKCON, and yet every single one of them had been thoroughly exposed and defeated."

I had pledged, we were able to pay for the printing and distribution of both *Back To Prabhupada* and *The Final Order* in Hungarian.

I feel Krishna's presence and my real spiritual master Srila Prabhupada's support. I also understand why I, and all other devotees, have suffered in ISKCON. I am very thankful to the IRM, especially Krishnakant *prabhu*, for giving us the truth and leading us out of the darkness. The present ISKCON doesn't function the way it is supposed to, because its so-called leaders and gurus are more after power and money than actually following Srila Prabhupada. Therefore, all devotees currently joining this movement are just wasting their valuable life and getting the opposite result to that which they came for. They become arrogant, proud, materialistic and frustrated when they realize this. I know this is true because I went through all this myself, and I see it in other devotees too. So I wish to help the IRM in saving as many souls as we can from this unfortunate situation.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

Readers are cordially invited to follow Govinda-Priya Devi Dasi's example by sending us your story of just how you came 'Back to Prabhupada'.

“Who is my disciple?”: Srila Prabhupada explains

In 1968, declaring his status as the spiritual master of ISKCON, Srila Prabhupada stated:

“Yes, I am the spiritual master of this institution, and all the members of the society, they’re supposed to be my disciples. They follow the rules and regulations which I ask them to follow, and they are initiated by me spiritually.”

(Srila Prabhupada Radio Interview, March 12th, 1968)

In the quotes below, Srila Prabhupada reiterates this point, making it clear that the requirement for being considered as his initiated disciple is to be disciplined by his rules and regulations. Furthermore, Srila Prabhupada does not state that following his rules and regulations and being disciplined by them (disciple) is dependent on needing to have physical contact with him. One does not therefore become the initiated disciple of the person who simply administers the initiation ceremony (*ritvik*) or who asks us to follow the rules and regulations given by Srila Prabhupada, just because he may proclaim: “*Srila Prabhupada has departed, and so you must accept me as his successor!*”

One who follows Srila Prabhupada's discipline is Srila Prabhupada's disciple

Prabhupada: “Who is my disciple? First of all let him follow strictly the disciplined rules.”

Devotee: “As long as one is following, then he is...”

Prabhupada: “Then he is all right.”

(Srila Prabhupada Morning Walk, June 13th, 1976)

“A disciple means one who is always following the orders of the spiritual master. So I instruct my disciples to refrain from four prohibitions, namely no eating of meat, fish or eggs, no illicit sex life, no taking of intoxication, including tea, coffee, cigarettes, etc., and no gambling. Besides that my students must chant sixteen rounds of japa-mala of Hare Krsna mantra daily. So if you are able to follow these principles without fail, then you are as good as my disciple.”

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, August 11th, 1972)

“That is dharma, discipline, to abide by the state laws. There must be some discipline. Similarly, to make yourself advanced in spiritual life, you must have to observe the discipline. Without discipline, it

is not possible. Adau gurvasrayam. Therefore Rupa Gosvami says in his Bhakti-rasamrta-sindhu that discipline means, one who observes discipline, he is called disciple. Everyone knows it. Disciple means one who observes discipline. If one does not observe discipline, then he is not a disciple. And one who is not a disciple, his life is chaotic. He cannot be happy. Therefore Vedas say that “You must accept a bona fide guru and become disciplined under his instruction.”

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, January 21st, 1974)

“A spiritual master means voluntarily accepting a great personality whose rules and regulations he must abide by. This is accepting of spiritual master, voluntarily accepting somebody, “Yes, sir. Whatever you say, I’ll accept.” Sisya. Sisya means who abides by the rules. That is called sisya. Or English, “discipline.” So either you take English or Sanskrit, the same meaning. Sisya means who accepts the ruling of his spiritual master; and disciple means also the same thing, who becomes disciplined by the spiritual master.”

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, September 12th, 1969)

“My advice is always chant 16 rounds minimum and follow the four regulative principles. All of my disciples must agree on this point otherwise they are not my disciples. Let one live anywhere, but stick to the principles. Disagreements will continue in this material world. So one may live in a suitable place, but one must follow these five principles. My disciples must follow these principles living either in heaven or hell.”

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, February 17th, 1976)

Reporter: “But suppose I were to become an initiate. Wouldn’t I have to come and live in the temple?”

Srila Prabhupada: “Not necessarily.”

Reporter: “I can stay at home?”

Srila Prabhupada: “Oh, yes.”

Reporter: “What about work? Would I have to give up my job?”

Srila Prabhupada: “No, you’d simply have to give up your bad habits and chant the Hare Krsna mantra on these beads—that’s all.”

Reporter: “Would I have to give any financial support?”

Srila Prabhupada: “No, that is your voluntary wish. If you give,

that’s all right. And if you don’t, we don’t mind. We do not depend on anyone’s financial contribution. We depend on Krsna.”

(The Science of Self-Realization, Chapter 2)

Srila Prabhupada's physical presence not necessary to initiate disciples

“So it is becoming very expensive to send so many sets of beads such long distance, and it has become little bothersome for me also, so I think now you may be appointed by me to give first initiations to new disciples by chanting on their beads on my behalf. In America Kirtanananda Swami is doing that. So now if there are two of you that will give me great relief. Kirtanananda will chant on the beads for new devotees in America, Canada, like that, you can chant on the beads for the European continent new disciples. They shall, of course, still be considered as my disciples, not that they shall become your disciples, but you will be empowered by me to chant their beads and that is the same effect of binding master and disciple as if I were personally chanting.”

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, January 4th, 1973)

IRM Mission Statement

Since the physical departure of His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada from our material vision on November 14th 1977, the International Society For Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), the great movement which he single-handedly founded in 1966, and which is the only hope for humanity, has undergone a massive deterioration in its spiritual purity. This has been due to various deviations from the instructions and standards given by Srila Prabhupada, the chief of which being his displacement as the sole *diksha* Guru for ISKCON. The ISKCON Revival Movement (IRM) seeks to restore ISKCON to its former glory, purity and philosophical chastity through the re-institution of all the instructions and standards that Srila Prabhupada gave, beginning with his role as the sole authority and *diksha* Guru for ISKCON. The IRM’s position is set out in *The Final Order* - see back page to order your [free](#) copy.



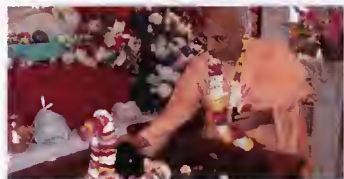
Readers' questions and challenges

"It appears that you have made a blunder, there is no worship of Lord Shiva in Ujjain, that you have claimed, of Bhakti Charu Swami. It is false [...] so an apology to Maharaj is a good way forward."

- Balgopal Das, Gauranga Jewellers, Durban, South Africa

Editor replies:

The photographs and accompanying report below, from which our story was taken verbatim, clearly document HH Bhakti Charu Swami ("BCS") worshipping Lord Shiva in ISKCON Ujjain, India:



"You also can see some pictures of Maha Shiva Ratri which was celebrated wonderfully at ISKCON Ujjain with our beloved Bhakti Charu Maharaja. Maharaja has announced fasting for all of us for this day."

("Shiva Ratri Celebration in Ujjain", BCS website, posted March 20th, 2008)

Furthermore, the latest report from ISKCON Ujjain proves that the worship of Lord Shiva is now an established practice there:

BCS *Istagosthi*, Sunday 14 February, 2010
Ujjain update

14th February, 2010

"[...] We also celebrated Shivaratri at the temple by offering devotees the opportunity to bathe the Shiva linga [...] Also a statue of Shiva was beautifully decorated under the supervision of H.G. Amole bhata Pr and placed in the garden where it was depicted how mother Ganga is flowing from the head of the lord and this drew a lot of devotees in the evening."

"I gave a copy of Back To Prabhupada to a Great Swami, who shook his head in despair as he read it....HE ONLY REPLIED, "what a shame that this has happened to a great movement". He threw the magazine on the ground and said it was written by demons, clearly blaspheming Sadhus and Devotees... I am starting to agree."

- John H. Olesky (Janardan Das), Indianapolis, USA

Editor replies:

Yes, it is indeed a shame that a great movement has been reduced to a guru free-for-all farce whereby the real guru of the movement, Srila Prabhupada, has been kicked out of his seat and replaced by unauthorized impostors. It is this state of affairs that has necessitated the publication and mass distribution of *Back To Prabhupada*, so that innocent people will be able to distinguish the reality (Srila Prabhupada) from the hoax (GBC's voted-in gurus).

Clearly, your "Great Swami" does not have any regard for Srila Prabhupada, for even if he violently disagrees with the contents of *BTP* (as he obviously does), still he should not have deliberately thrown Srila Prabhupada's picture, which adorns the front cover of every issue, on the ground:

"There is no difference between me and my picture. Therefore we should honor and keep the pictures in that spirit. If we throw pictures this way and that way, that is offense. The name and picture are as good as the person in the spiritual world."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter September 4th, 1972)

We challenge your "Great Swami" to point out one instance of where we have "clearly blasphemed Sadhus and Devotees" rather than just stated truth and facts - unless he believes that stating truth and facts is blasphemy?!

"If you truly want to reform ISKCON then please distribute Srila Prabhupada's Bhagavad-Gita "As it is" - if you truly want to please His Divine Grace. Get your book distributors doing this, then this is real service to Srila Prabhupada and Krishna."

- Pita Das (Glenn Avery), Atlanta, USA

Editor replies:

Thank you for your suggestion. You are correct that we truly want to please Srila Prabhupada and Krishna. Undoubtedly, distributing Srila Prabhupada's original *Bhagavad-gita As It Is* is an activity that will please Srila Prabhupada, as long as people are at the same time informed that the person who has translated and explained the *Bhagavad-gita* for their enlightenment is also their guru. Unfortunately, this has currently become necessary because Srila Prabhupada's books direct the reader to ISKCON, but ISKCON today is not the movement which Srila Prabhupada speaks of, and which is mentioned throughout Srila Prabhupada's *Bhagavad-gita*. Rather, the movement today masquerading as Srila Prabhupada's ISKCON has deviated wholesale from His Divine Grace's instructions. It is using Srila Prabhupada's books to attract the readers away from Srila Prabhupada and his teachings and into the arms of those falsely claiming to be his successors. So unless we simultaneously educate devotees about Srila Prabhupada's position, those reading Srila Prabhupada's books can unwittingly end up being led away from him and into the hands of dangerous guru impostors.

Therefore, the IRM aims to please ISKCON's saviour Srila Prabhupada by both distributing his books, and at the same time warning people through the pages of *Back To Prabhupada* magazine not to fall prey to the false messiahs in ISKCON.

"Srila Prabhupada never ever anywhere declared that the world is now bereft of a pure devotee from whom one can take association. Why then you have made such a situation through your book *The Final Order* that there is no pure devotee of the Lord on this earth at present? [...] Your TFO has disturbed my mental peace [...] I have been disturbed by your TFO and BTP for last 2 years. You have made me cry, I cry a lot alone, and you are responsible for this."

- Prem Prakash Pathak, Aliganj, U.P., India

Editor replies:

You have categorically claimed that our position, as also stated in *The Final Order* (TFO), is that we believe that no pure devotees are present. But we say the exact opposite in TFO:

"8) "Are you saying that Srila Prabhupada created no pure devotees?"

No, all we are stating is that Srila Prabhupada did set up the *ritvik* system to allow initiations to continue. [...] Furthermore, the implementation of a *ritvik* system does not rule out, a priori, the possible existence of pure devotees. [...] The fact that Srila Prabhupada did not authorise any of his disciples to act as *diksa* guru does not necessarily mean that none of them were pure devotees. It could just be that Krsna's plan did not require them to take up such a role."

(*The Final Order*)

This means either that:

1) You lied when you claimed you have read TFO (so thoroughly, in fact, that it has disturbed your mental peace and made you cry).

2) Or you have read TFO and either forgotten or not understood the content, or worse still, deliberately lied about the content.

We welcome all correspondence.

Email us: irm@iskconirm.com

The elimination of the ISKCON *diksha* guru

The philosophical onslaught by the IRM has led to the GBC's continually shifting ground towards the IRM's position, as highlighted by the various "climbs-downs" we have featured. In addition, over the last decade or so, ISKCON has officially been working to downgrade the position of the ISKCON *diksha* (initiating) guru to that of being a *ritvik* (officiating priest) throughout the "disciple's" life.

Before initiation

An ISKCON *diksha* guru cannot freely initiate whomever or wherever he wants. Rather, his sphere of influence is determined by the GBC and temple authorities, like that of a *ritvik*:

"There will be no more 'cross-border' initiations."
(208/II-107 Initiation procedures, Euro GBC, 7/10/2008)

"Before a candidate can receive first initiation, his prospective guru must receive a formal written recommendation from the appropriate ISKCON spiritual authority, as determined by the candidate's situation."
(ISKCON Law Book, 7.2.1.3.1)

After initiation: service

An ISKCON *diksha* guru also cannot freely engage his "disciple" in service. Here again the temple authorities have the supreme authority:

"Temple presidents and project leaders are fully responsible for engaging the devotees in their charge. Gurus must first consult with a temple president before talking to a disciple about changing their service."
(Law 405 (G), GBC Resolutions, 1999)

After initiation: disciple donations

An ISKCON *diksha* guru cannot

even freely ask for money from his own "disciple":

"It is hereby resolved that in general ISKCON gurus may no longer make requests for funds from disciples or other devotees for projects or personal maintenance."
(208/II-107 Initiation procedures, Euro GBC, 7/10/2008)

After initiation: teaching

An ISKCON *diksha* guru is not even required to teach his disciple anything, as this job has been primarily delegated to Srila Prabhupada:

"ISKCON leaders shall teach that Srila Prabhupada's books and teachings are the foundation of the spiritual lives of all ISKCON members. Therefore, all ISKCON members shall consider it their compulsory duty to study Srila Prabhupada's books. Hearing from other devotee's books and teachings is secondary and supplemental and should not be done at the expense of hearing regularly from Srila Prabhupada. [...] ISKCON members shall be trained to place their faith, trust and allegiance first and foremost in the Founder-Acarya who is the pre-eminent *siksa* guru for every member of ISKCON."
(Law 405 (F), Law 406, (A) 7.1.1, GBC Resolutions, 1999)

After initiation: physical contact

Indeed an ISKCON *diksha* guru is not even required to meet his "disciple":

"Indeed, most spiritual masters in ISKCON travel and preach all over the world and you may be lucky to spend little time in their physical presence"

[...] A "realistic expectation of a spiritual master" is that the disciple should be "prepared to be 'blanked'".

("Spiritual Master and Disciple" course notes, Bhaktivedanta Manor, ISKCON UK)

After initiation: inspiration

As well as not *doing* anything, an ISKCON *diksha* guru is not even required to act as a source of inspiration:

"A duly initiated disciple in ISKCON can accept Srila Prabhupada, the founder-*acarya* of ISKCON, as his principle *siksa-guru*. During his devotional life, he may experience that he derives more spiritual inspiration from Srila Prabhupada's books and *vani* than from his own *diksa-guru*."
(ISKCON Law 601, GBC Resolutions, 2000)

During initiation

Surely, if not needed for anything else, an ISKCON *diksha* guru is at least needed to act as a *ritvik*, and perform the initiation for his disciple? Even here, other "ritviks" can do this on his behalf, with a recent example being the "initiation given via the internet" by Jayapataka Swami, with the chosen *ritvik* acting as follows:

"HH Gauranga Prem Swami Maharaja touched the beads to Guru Maharaja's picture and then read the name selected by Guru Maharaja and gave the beads on his behalf to the devotees."

[www.jpsoffice.com]

This practise in itself challenges the notion that Srila Prabhupada cannot be the initiating guru because he must be present on the planet in order to give initiation. Despite no evidence having ever been presented for this dogma, one cannot even offer a *reason* for this doc-

trine, since the guru is not required to have any physical contact with the disciple either before, during or after the initiation, as proven by the countless number of Srila Prabhupada's disciples who never met him. And if you can conduct initiations by touching the beads to a picture, with the presence of the guru not actually required, one cannot claim this cannot also be done when the guru is not on the planet, because the guru is not present! We saw in BTP 9 that even the whole initiation ceremony can take place after the guru has left the planet, as in the case of disciples of HH Bhakti Tirtha Swami, as long as acceptance had already taken place (please see "The myth of the living guru", BTP 9). And the process of selecting names and accepting disciples had already been delegated entirely to *ritviks* by Srila Prabhupada on July 9th, 1977, so Srila Prabhupada is not even required to do this personally.

Conclusion

So at every stage of the guru-disciple relationship, the ISKCON *diksha* guru has officially been relegated to *ritvik*-like duties, and basically is not even required, while Srila Prabhupada is the person who is actually needed in the disciple's life. At most, the ISKCON *diksha* guru has been reduced to a mere functionary, to "rubber-stamp" a person into the "*parampara*", just like a *ritvik*. Though this may be the only "input" required from the ISKCON *diksha* guru, they do make sure that in the matter of taking worship and benefits, they hypocritically will suddenly become real *diksha* gurus again! So a "Ritvik work – Guru benefits" system applies. The GBC therefore concede that there is no reason for their false "anyone-but-Srila Prabhupada living *diksha* guru" system.

The “double appointment” hoax

When false guru succession theories are destroyed, in desperation its adherents may concoct an even more ludicrous theory to keep their guru ambitions alive. One ludicrous theory, which was proven to be so ludicrous that even the whole of the GBC and ISKCON officially rejected it, was the “zonal *acharya* appointment theory” (“Great Guru Hoax, Part 1”). Faced with the fact that this particular appointment theory has been rejected, some desperate ISKCON leaders have attempted to revive it in recent years under another ludicrous guise, which we will shall call the “double appointment” hoax.

Double appointment

Whereas the zonal *acharya* appointment theory states that 11 men were appointed as *diksha* guru successors via being appointed as *ritviks* who were to then automatically turn into *diksha* gurus on Srila Prabhupada's departure, the “double appointment” hoax states:

a) 11 men were first appointed in July 1977 as *ritviks* to only be *ritviks*.

b) Then in October 1977, due to Srila Prabhupada becoming too ill to initiate, the 11 are now appointed to act as *diksha* gurus immediately, even during his physical presence.

The desperation of ISKCON's leaders to revive the guru appointment theory has led to at least the 3 following attempts by ISKCON's leadership to propose this “double appointment” hoax in one form or another:

i) Sankarshan Das, GBC-voted in guru.

ii) HH Trivikrama Swami, GBC-voted in guru.

iii) *Prabhupada's Order*, the official GBC reply to the IRM's *The Final Order*.*

We mentioned instance a) above in *BTP* 20, and will deal

with this ludicrous theory in full here by analysing an article called “Final Order” by ISKCON guru HH Trivikrama Swami (“TKS”), with all the quotes in the panels below excerpted from this article (typing errors kept intact); the original article can be found at this link: <http://trivikramaswami.com/category/articles>, archived February 23rd, 2010).

No *diksha* order given

“Here Srila Prabhupada is saying two things. One is that he will appoint some of his leading disciples to act as *ritviks*, like it had been done before, to initiate disciple on behalf of His Divine Grace. Then he is also saying that when I order they can become actually guru. The FINAL ORDER is not given yet. [...] that comes Oct 18 1977.”

TKS refers here to the May 28th, 1977 conversation, and crucially, he admits the IRM position that there is no hint of any *diksha* guru order in the May 28th conversation, by claiming this order has still yet to be given, and will not be given until October. This means that if it can be shown that no *diksha* gurus were appointed in October, then the “double appointment” hoax traps itself into admitting that Srila Prabhupada specifically only appointed *ritviks* to carry out initiations in ISKCON.

Fake final order

Referring to the conversation below:

Prabhupada: “Hare Krsna. One Bengali gentleman has come from New York?”

Tamal Krsna: “Yes. Mr. Sukamal Roy Chowdury.”

Prabhupada: “So I have deputed some of you to initiate. Hm?”

Tamal Krsna: “Yes. Actually... Yes, Srila Prabhupada.”

Prabhupada: “So I think Jayapataka can do that if he likes.

I have already deputed. Tell him.”

Tamal Krsna: “Yes.”

Prabhupada: “So, deputies, Jayapataka's name was there?”

Bhagavan: “It is already on there, Srila Prabhupada. His name was on that list.”

Prabhupada: “So I depute him to do this at Mayapura, and you may go with him. I stop for the time being. Is that alright?”

Tamal Krsna: “Stopped doing what, Srila Prabhupada?”

Prabhupada: “This initiation. I have deputed the, my disciples. Is it clear or not?”

Giriraja: “It's clear.”

Prabhupada: “You have got the list of the names?”

Tamal Krsna: “Yes, Srila Prabhupada.”

Prabhupada: “And if by Krsna's grace I recover from this condition, then I shall begin again, or I may not be pressed in this condition to initiate. It is not good.”

(Conversation, October 18th, 1977)

TKS states:

“From July 8th '77 until this point Srila Prabhupada has been initiating disciple via his *ritvik* representatives. Now he wants to stop doing that. [...] By now Srila Prabhupada is very ill. He has lost a tremendous amount of weight and has practically no strength even to shift himself in his bed. Now Srila Prabhupada is giving his FINAL ORDER. He wants his disciple who he has appointed to begin initiating their own disciples. Otherwise what can he mean when he says he is stopping this initiation but he still wants Mr. Sukamal Roy Chowdury to be initiated. [...] This is his FINAL ORDER on this subject.”

a) But the *ritvik* system already in place did not require Srila Prabhupada's physical involvement at all! Hence his illness or physical health can have no bear-

ing on the arrangement since the *ritviks* had been authorized to accept disciples on his behalf without Srila Prabhupada requiring to do anything.

b) Clearly, therefore, Srila Prabhupada could only be stopping an activity which depended on his physical health, and this was performing the initiation fire *yajna ceremony* for those persons who approached him to be initiated personally, just as Mr. Sukamal Roy Chowdury has done here.

c) This is confirmed by the fact that Srila Prabhupada refers to the initiation being carried out via the same system of “deputation” he had given via the list of “deputies” (*ritviks*) that he had appointed in July, of which Jayapataka was one. He does not state that actually this system of deputation is now to be ceased, and the *ritviks* must now turn into *diksha* gurus. Rather, Srila Prabhupada makes a point of re-confirming the original *ritvik* order: “*This initiation. I have deputed the, my disciples. Is it clear or not?*”

Thus no *diksha* guru order was ever given.

Conclusion

By claiming that Srila Prabhupada appointed *ritviks*, whose status was to change only via a non-existent *diksha* guru order in October, the “double appointment” hoax merely ends up confirming the IRM's position!

*Here a hybrid version of both the zonal and “double appointment” hoax is suggested: “*Prabhupada indicated that the 11 were in fact to all intents and purposes performing the full-fledged function of gurus in his own presence, for on October 18 he was approached for initiation by an Indian man who flew in all the way from New York [...] From the above conversation it is clear that Prabhupada was not willing to accept the new initiate because of his condition he didn't want his karma. [...] Yet as a matter of etiquette the persons the first 11 initiated were still to be considered Prabhupada's disciples during his presence.*”

(*Prabhupada's Order*, GBC, Hari Sauri Das)

The death of the “magic wand” theory

In the article on page 7, we documented the attempt to change Srila Prabhupada's purports due to their contents contradicting the guru hoax. Cheating tactics have also been used to avoid dealing with the contents of the July 9th, 1977 directive, which Srila Prabhupada signed, setting up the *ritvik* (representative) system of initiation for ISKCON.

Srila Prabhupada's letter

An attempt has been made to show that the July 9th directive is not really “Srila Prabhupada's letter”, but a letter from Tamal Krishna Goswami (“TKG”):

“But let's get back to this supposed final order by Prabhupada. Actually, if it is a final order it is a final order by Tamal Krishna Goswami, because he wrote and signed the July 9 letter.”

(Drutakarma Das, ISKCON GBC apologist, November 17th, 1998)

And, that since the letter began and ended with TKG, only he can understand what the letter could possibly mean:

“The July 9th letter was not authored by Srila Prabhupada but by his secretary Tamal Krishna Goswami [...] we thought it pertinent to allow him to explain what he actually meant by the letter,”

(*Prabhupada's Order*, GBC, 1998)

However, such a tactic is demolished by TKG himself, because he admitted at the outset that Srila Prabhupada originated and initiated the letter, telling him exactly what to write:

“These 11 persons were named by Srila Prabhupada in the beginning of July, 1977, in Vrindaban in the backgarden of his house. These names were

dictated to me as I was serving as his Secretary, and he had me write a letter to all the GBC and Temple Presidents which he also signed as approved on the 9th of July, listing their names and defining their function.”

(TKG Letter to Upananda Das, December 13th, 1978, emphases added)

And their functions are listed clearly – to accept disciples on behalf of Srila Prabhupada. There is no mention that their function is stop doing this on Srila Prabhupada's departure, or to turn into *diksha* gurus at this time. Therefore, consulting TKG can not result in a changing of the literal written content of the letter.

180-degree flip-flop

The next trick to avoid dealing with the actual contents of the letter is to argue that at the time “everyone knew” that the letter had no relevance for what would happen after Srila Prabhupada's departure. However, in 1978 it was fully accepted that the July 9th directive was a document addressing ISKCON's future, and what was specifically to happen regarding initiations for when Srila Prabhupada departed:

“The argument that after the departure of the spiritual master any one of his disciples can give initiation, cannot be applied in the case of Srila Prabhupada who specifically named 11 persons only at first to fulfill this function.”

(TKG Letter to Upananda Das, December 13th, 1978)

There was never any doubt at the time that the directive was the document outlining how initiations were to be conducted for the future, for it was the only place where the 11 persons were named. Only their role was supposedly to change from *ritvik* to

guru on departure.

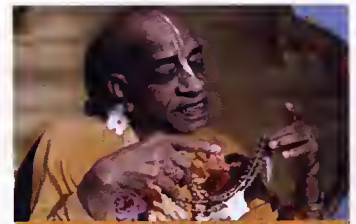
Subsequently, after realizing that the very document on which they had founded their whole guru system would now actually discredit them, the GBC did a 180-degree turn. Although the GBC stated earlier that the July 9th directive was the document setting out ISKCON's initiation future and the document that anointed 11 initiating guru successors, they were now trying to downgrade it to an insignificant temporary document. Meanwhile, the issue of guru succession – the most important question for any institution – was now supposedly conducted via a “nod and a wink”:

“this is the selection that never was. I shall select some of you, that's what he did, was he both selected and didn't select, very cleverly or obliquely, and at arm's length. He appointed 11 ritvik gurus, and also said you cannot become guru, unless you are qualified, now this to me, this was a nod, these are my best people. This was a nod in their direction.”

(Ravindra Svarupa Das, ex-GBC chairman, San Diego *Ritvik Debate*, 1990)

So the most important decision was communicated via a mystical nod, but the unimportant issue of how initiations were to be conducted for only 4 months was communicated via an official directive sent out to every single temple president and GBC member!

Thus, with the utmost irony, the July 9th directive has changed from being the founding document of the ISKCON guru system to the founding document of the *ritvik* system – a state of affairs which could exist precisely because its applicability for the future of initiations in ISKCON was never initially questioned.



Srila Prabhupada: real magic

Defeated by themselves

This flip-flop, however, has laid bare a fatal flaw in the current ISKCON guru system. As part of the “deal” which allowed the first group of guru hoaxers (“The Great Guru Hoax, Part 1”) to allow the expansion of the second wave of gurus (“The Great Guru Hoax, Part 2”), the legitimacy of the first 11 gurus was still accepted by the newer guru hoaxers. The GBC downgraded the July 9th directive from being a guru appointment letter into, now, nothing but a *ritvik* appointment letter. Then the obvious question is “where is the ‘magic wand’ which transforms these 11 ritviks into *diksha* gurus of any kind?” The May 28th conversation tape does not provide this transformation, for as we proved in the last issue (please see “Zonal *acharya* revival!”), such a misguided use of this conversation can only support the already discarded “zonal *acharya* guru appointment” argument. Indeed, the GBC have already realized this, for they no longer make any attempt to explain how the gurus were authorized. They simply assume that it is “implicit” that this was what Srila Prabhupada “intended” (please see BTP 17, “GBC bombshell”).

Conclusion

In their eagerness to thwart the July 9th directive's permanent applicability for initiations in ISKCON, the GBC are also now left without any “magic wand” order to transmogrify the 11 *ritviks* (officiating priests) Srila Prabhupada appointed, into automatic *diksha* guru successors on his departure.

The illusion of freedom

A popular saying, credited to the famous German author Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, is "None are more hopelessly enslaved than those who falsely believe they are free". That is because, if alerted to their enslavement, it is very likely that they would continuously rebel, trying to become free. This "illusion of freedom" is a tactic employed by leaders of destructive cults (and others) to similarly keep their followers loyal and enslaved. On the one hand, members of a destructive cult will be urged to "think for themselves". They are advised to take special "courses", "education" and "training" to foster this false sense of freedom. In reality though, day-to-day in ISKCON, the member will have his thoughts strictly controlled via the justification of avoiding committing "*Vaishnava aparadha*" (offenses against devotees), excommunication and other scare tactics. We present here a case study of ISKCON GBC guru HH Sivarama Swami ("SRS") engaging in such tactics. All quotes in the paneled boxes will be from a recent podcast broadcast by SRS on February 2nd, 2010.

Blind faith

"He may be a *sadhaka* which is also fine. The guru may be a *sadhaka* guru. He's not a *siddha* guru. Either a *sadhana-siddha* or a *nitya-siddha*. But he should be a strictly-following *sadhaka* guru. And it's the duty of devotees to accept people on the basis of *laksana*. *Yad laksanam proktam*. We should judge things according to their qualities. And that really is what Krishna Consciousness is about. We're meant to be about anything other than blind faith even within our own followers."

Yet, hypocritically, SRS does not allow his own followers to do this, if his own position is threat-

ened, forbidding them to read *BTP*, lest their blind faith in SRS be disturbed:

"I am writing to you in regard to the magazine "Back to Prabhupada," which many of you may have received and seen [...] Therefore *ritviks* and their literature should be ignored [...] This same instruction is reflected in the direction of the GBC Body, the ultimate authority for ISKCON, in their 1990 law regarding *ritviks* and their doctrine:[...]The tone of the above law makes it quite clear that persons who are in breach of it can expect to be the object of serious sanctions."

(SRS Letter to all devotees, July 17th, 2008)

"I would just like to request devotees who receive such magazines to bring it in to the temple, give it to me I'll collect it, it shouldn't be around in the devotee community."

(SRS, *Istagosthi*, Budapest, July 17th, 2008)

SRS makes it clear that if anyone dares to read *BTP* there will be "serious sanctions", and so desperate is he to make sure that no one does read *BTP*, he even offers to act as the personal 'collection man' for the magazines! In addition, following the sending out of these warnings, SRS dispatched devotees to visit devotees' homes and ask them to return *BTP*. Hence, it's all very well telling devotees they must use their intelligence to judge and not be blind followers, but at the same time SRS insists on such blind following!

False advertising

"We have many examples of devotees who in ISKCON were deemed to be very advanced devotees, pure devotees and then they left Krishna Consciousness, gave up their service as guru and *sannyasi*

and so as they were being advertised as being *uttama-adhikaris*, they turned out they were just barely *kanistha-adhikaris*. [...] Srila Prabhupada in the *Upadesamrta* purport in verse 5, verse 8, points out that it's the responsibility of devotees - verse 5, excuse me - for devotees to actually understand the level of spiritual advancement of a *Vaishnava*."

At the forefront of this false advertising was, of course, SRS himself. From 1978-1986 we had many fallen gurus, as SRS himself admits:

"I was seeing deviations in ISKCON and this one was really a major deviation. Fallen *sannyasis*, drugs-induced ecstasy, illicit sex, and needless to say that it was clear that the gurus were fallible."

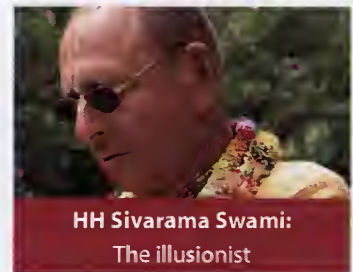
(SRS, Podcast, October 3rd, 2006)

Two such examples were Jayatirtha and Bhagavan (two members of "The Great Guru Hoax, Part 1"), whom SRS falsely advertised and enforced as *uttama-adhikaris* (topmost pure devotees), right up until they actually fell down and left ISKCON. Subsequently, SRS actively promoted two more bogus gurus, both of whom left ISKCON after displaying similar fallen behaviour: Vipramukhya Swami and Balabhadra Das, a.k.a. Bhakti Ballabh Puri Goswami. Of the latter, even SRS admitted that, as the resident GBC, he was ultimately responsible for demanding devotees follow this false guru:

"Anyway I prefaced my talk at that meeting by apologizing to the devotees, as I had done to devotees in Scotland, that being GBC I was ultimately responsible for what happened, or at least the direction in which Balabhadra was going in."

(SRS podcast, September 27th, 2007)

So again, it's all very well cau-



HH Sivarama Swami:
The illusionist

tioning against false advertising, and the need for devotees to not be taken in by this, but SRS has been at the forefront of forcing devotees to accept such false advertising!

Spiritual science

"That is what Srila Prabhupada called spiritual science, and we should go on the basis of spiritual science, rather than just hearsay, speculation, wishful thinking and so on. Unfortunately, that's been the situation within our own movement."

SRS states that we should go on the basis of "spiritual science" rather than speculation and the like. Yet, we have proven numerous times in *BTP* that SRS is an example of a person who does not know "spiritual science", as he constantly contradicts Srila Prabhupada. SRS's disciples are not allowed to access this spiritual science, but rather must only accept his speculations.

Conclusion

The whole purpose of this podcast from SRS was to educate devotees against blind following, false advertising and speculation. But we have shown that, in practice, SRS actually enforces these very things! This hypocritical contradictory double-talk is common in mind-controlled brainwashed cults, where on the one hand, to engender a false feeling of freedom, cult members may be told to think for themselves, but on the other, the actual actions taken by the cult ensure that blind following is ruthlessly enforced.

Am I a demon or a Vaishnava? - Part 2

Continuing our theme highlighting the absurd and contradictory pronouncements from the GBC and their elected gurus regarding the canonizing of their gurus as great saints (please see back page of *BTP* 25), we highlight below some more crazy double-think:

1991: Guru in GBC rehab

"Whereas, in pursuance of Resolution 90-69 wherein Bhakti Tirtha Swami was placed on probation from the GBC Body and given a program of rectification for the 1990-91 year, which was in the mood of rehabilitating him as a GBC member in good standing through association with the holy *dhams* and senior ISKCON vaishnavas who reside there; and whereas he unfortunately failed to comply with these specific terms of rectification. Therefore, the GBC Body, with deep regret, is compelled by its rules to hereby suspend Bhakti Tirtha Swami as a member of the GBC. It is the GBC's primary concern to see Bhakti Tirtha Swami reinstated as a member in good standing, and in order to achieve this, a program of rectification is given as follows:

He must cooperate with the GBC's assigned to the areas in which he is preaching. For maintaining international standards, he must encourage his disciples to bring the procedures in his zone for the honoring and worshiping of guru into conformity with those prescribed in the Laws of ISKCON." (GBC Resolution no. 37, 1991)

1998: Guru still in GBC rehab

"Bhakti Tirtha Swami will work with the Communications Ministry with present and future books to see if certain editing is necessary to enhance his books for the devotee community. It is recommended that he adhere more closely to the standard *sannyasi* dress code, at least while in ISKCON temples. The *sannyasa* minister must approach him to discuss this and decide what standard is suitable, including the use of a cane. It is recommended that he try to increase the *sastric* content in his classes and preaching." (GBC Appraisal Recommendations, 1998)

2003: Guru is a nonsense cheater and murderer

"Many devotees around the world are being spiritually murdered by believing BTS's [Bhakti Tirtha Swami's] bizarre assertions [...] With motherships from Atlantis, the world controlled by a Skull and Bones Society, etc., etc., BTS has a history of talking and publishing imaginative nonsense that disqualifies him from being an acarya. He should talk according to guru sadhu and sastra or take a mothership and fly off to another dimension. This nonsense must stop. It is simply cheating."

(HH Bhakti Vikas Swami, PAMHO Text, August 19th, 2003)

2010: Actually, guru was a pure devotee from the spiritual world all along!

"So in this way we can see that Krishna actually sent Srila Prabhupada to accomplish that mission. And in order to assist Srila Prabhupada Sri Krishna also sent many devotees. And undoubtedly HH Bhakti Tirtha Maharaj is one of them. [...] Srila Prabhupada himself admitted that quite a few times that many of his disciples are not just ordinary living entities, *sadhaka bhaktas*, they are his eternal associates. Just as he came from the spiritual sky these devotees also came from the spiritual sky. [...] Prabhupada considered him to be a very, very special devotee and he was a very special devotee. [...] How do we recognize Bhakti Tirtha Maharaja's advanced situation as a pure devotee? [...] We hear of the dancing of Caitanya Mahaprabhu and His associates and we could get a glimpse of that when Maharaj danced."

(HH Bhakti Charu Swami, February 22nd, 2010, Public lecture on HH Bhakti Tirtha Swami at ISKCON world headquarters Mayapur, West Bengal, India)

**SRILA PRABHUPADA IS THE REAL GURU -
ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES.**



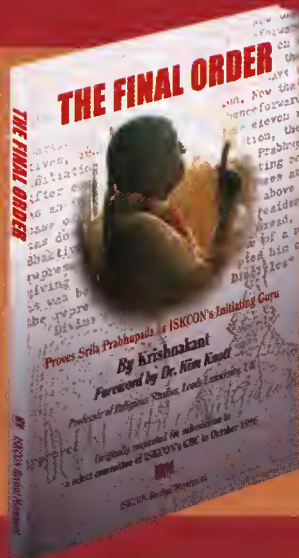
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From the Foreword by Professor
Kim Knott, Head of Religious Studies,
Leeds University, UK